

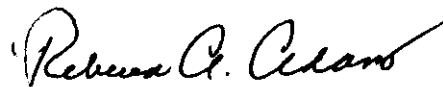
Combating the Stereotypes:
A Presentation about Family & Consumer Sciences

An Honors Project (HONRS 499)

By

Tara Barker

Dr. Beckie Adams, Advisor

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rebecca A. Adams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R' and a long, sweeping underline.

Ball State University
Muncie, Indiana

May 2005

Expected Date of Graduation: May 7th, 2005

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Abstract

Students from many different majors are subject to both positive and negative stereotypes. Students of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences at Ball State University are no different in this respect. Following several unfortunate, negative experiences and conversations regarding my major (Family and Consumer Sciences), I became motivated to promote exactly what graduates in this area are capable of doing. In order to do this, I created a PowerPoint presentation that included information about each major in Family and Consumer Sciences. It provides audiences with information such as careers available in each major, classes required of each major, and a voice-over of a student's perspective. I made this presentation available to college students and high school students in Ohio. Along with the PowerPoint presentation I created documents with basic information about each major and websites that interested students could explore. The presentation and documents will be used by the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences in the future to further students' knowledge about each major.

The Purpose and Explanation

I have faced several negative experiences and conversations regarding my major in Family and Consumer Sciences. Many people I have spoken with about my major expect that I will graduate and become a day care teacher or a home economics teacher. It seems that the common perception of Family and Consumer Sciences' students is a bunch of girls who want to cook and sew for a living. While there are careers for young women and men who enjoy food preparation and apparel construction, the Family and Consumer Sciences field has many more career options to offer.

Because of these negative experiences and conversations I felt motivated to somehow promote Family and Consumer Sciences, and to share with others what is actually included in the field. My desire was to dispel some of the stereotypes associated with my major. Education is the best way to dispel any stereotypes or prejudices. In order to educate others about Family and Consumer Sciences I decided to create a PowerPoint presentation. This presentation would include a list of the variety of careers available to Family and Consumer Science graduates, classes, pictures of students in their specific area of study, and a voice-over of a student's perspective of his or her major. It was created for both a presentation environment and so that individuals could navigate their way through it on their own. Each of the nine main majors in Family and Consumer Sciences were represented: Apparel Design, Dietetics, Family and Child Option, Fashion Merchandising, Family and Consumer Sciences Education, General Option, Hospitality and Food Management, Interior Design, and Residential Property Management.

After discussing my ideas with my faculty advisor, Dr. Beckie Adams, and the chair of our department, Dr. Alice Spangler, we worked out a plan. Ball State University

has a reciprocity agreement with certain counties in Ohio which allows students from those specified counties to attend Ball State University without paying out-of-state tuition. Our department has been interested in recruiting new students from this area because of this agreement. As a result, we decided that I would go to two nearby towns in Ohio to present my materials to interested students.

Dr. Beckie Adams and I arranged to have a display table set up at Edison Community College in Piqua, Ohio. We contacted Maggie Myers, a staff member at the college. Through her I was able to advertise for the display as she offered to post advertisements I created for the event. When we arrived for the event, Edison Community College staff members helped set up the table.

The table included a large display board advertising the majors of Family and Consumer Sciences which the department graciously let me borrow. In front of the display board we placed a laptop computer with my presentation set and ready to go. Documents with information about each major were available to interested students. I pieced together these documents in Microsoft Word; they contained information such as an explanation of each major, careers available in each major, classes required of each major, a student's perspective of their experiences (which originated from the audio format in the PowerPoint), and websites students could explore.

Along with the presentation and documents I created, basic information about Ball State University was offered to students through the display table. A Ball State undergraduate catalogue, admissions brochures, Ball State's Career Center brochures, and Family and Consumer Sciences brochures were set on the table for students to take

home. A strategically placed bowl of free candy was also included to draw students to the display.

My goal for this display board at Edison College was to provide as much information as I could to interested students in as many different ways possible. The PowerPoint presentation provided information in an audio and visual format. The self-navigable presentation offered students a choice of which major they wanted to explore. The individual documents about each major gave students information that they could take home and explore at a convenient time. Pictures on the display board offered more visual stimulation that helped students to actually see the different majors. Finally, other members of the Family and Consumer Sciences department were available to answer any questions. Josh Clauser, a Dietetics student, and I, a Family and Child student, stood beside the display table to direct students to the correct information. Dr. Beckie Adams was also available to help answer any questions.

Having these different types of information available to students was beneficial. Many students passing by our table were on their way to class or in a hurry, so being able to hand them something to take with them helped tremendously. Setting up a meeting during the day at the college probably would not have worked out as well. With classes running all day long, and students having little time, a meeting probably would have been inconvenient. The display table however allowed students to stop by quickly, obtain information, and get to class on time.

Providing as much information as possible was a similar goal in the meeting I arranged at a high school in Greenville, Ohio. Whereas the college display table was meant to allow college students to explore majors they were interested in, the intention

for this meeting was to educate high school students about all the majors in Family and Consumer Sciences and the reciprocity agreement. I wanted to give the high school students basic information about all of the majors so that they could decide which major, if any, would fit them.

The set-up for this meeting was different than the college table. The high school meeting was meant to be an open forum for high school students and their parents to ask any questions about the majors, classes, or college life in general. At the meeting, I planned to give a brief introduction on the reason for my project, and to show the presentation about the different majors. After that, the floor would be open to students with questions. To help answer all of their questions, I invited Josh Clauser, a Dietetics student, Dr. Beckie Adams, a Family and Child area professor, and Dr. Alice Spangler, the chair of the department.

Unfortunately the high school meeting did not turn out as planned. Dr. Adams, Dr. Spangler, Josh, and I waited for students to attend, but sadly no one came. As disappointment sank in, I began to wonder why no students showed up. I had contacted all seven high schools in Darke County, Ohio in mid-March for the meeting on April 13th. (Darke County is one of the counties that is part of the reciprocity agreement with Ball State). I spoke with guidance counselors and Family and Consumer Sciences teachers at the different high schools to arrange the meeting. Most of them said that a few of their students would be interested in the meeting, so I sent copies of my flier advertising the event to them. One high school informed me that they would include the meeting in their announcements for a couple of days.

The fliers, announcements, and teachers or guidance counselors recruiting students to come seemed to be enough advertisement. However, in the end more advertisement would have helped immensely. When I contacted the high schools in mid-March, I assumed that would be enough time to advertise, but I forgot to account for Spring Break. Most of the high schools had Spring Break the last week of March or the first week of April, which did not provide ample time for getting the word out about this meeting. Several high schools offered to include an advertisement in their school newsletter, but since Spring Break was near, their deadlines were cut short. I had not contacted the high schools early enough to properly advertise throughout the different high schools.

Another advertisement method that could have helped greatly is local newspapers. I did look into this lightly, but soon discovered that using that method would require money that I did not have and could not acquire that quickly. The radio stations in Ohio could have also been useful to promote the high school meeting. But again, that required more time and money than I had available.

This lack of advertisement is most likely the reason that the high school meeting did not go as planned. It does not seem that it was the only reason however. Other circumstances such as willingness of high school students to attend, the timing of the high schools' Spring Breaks, and my somewhat short notice to the high schools about the meeting added to the lack of attendance.

Although no high school students attended the meeting, I do not look at this project as a failure. It was disappointing, but despite the no-show high school meeting we did have a good turnout at the college display table. We spoke with about a dozen

people or more within a three hour time frame about majors in Family and Consumer Sciences, and other majors available at Ball State. In this respect, the project was successful. Even if students were interested in a different program, we were still there representing Ball State University.

Along with the successful college trip, my presentation will also be used in the future by the department. The department wants to use my presentation for the freshmen introductory course and other recruitment meetings or trips. I presented it at a faculty meeting in April, and several professors expressed interest in using it. It is wonderful that my presentation will be able to keep promoting Family and Consumer Sciences even after I graduate.

My project's success at Edison Community College and its potential use for further education is rewarding to me. All of the time and effort that I (and many others) put into the project was worthwhile. Through this project I learned about technology, patience, organizing an event, advertising, and my department. The PowerPoint presentation was very challenging for me. I knew the basics about the program, but recording voice-overs, editing them, and linking them into PowerPoint was new to me. Inserting pictures from a digital camera, a website, and other presentations was also a new and welcome challenge.

A lot of patience was required for the long process of recording and taking pictures. I met with nine students from each major in Family and Consumer Sciences over a one week period to record their voice-overs; making nine different schedules coordinate with my own was a challenge like no other. The following week, I attended

about seven classes (in addition to my own) to take the pictures I needed for the presentation.

Learning lessons in how to organize meetings and effectively advertise was also part of this project. If I had to do this project all over again, I would contact the high schools several months before the meeting and find money through a grant or other means to advertise through the local media. With these changes, I believe the high school meeting could have been more successful. But even so, the project was worth the work because through it I was able to promote the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

My goal to promote awareness about the majors in Family and Consumer Sciences was accomplished through this project, and the materials produced will continue to do so in the following years. The information provided within the PowerPoint and other documents will help and have helped combat the stereotypes held against the Family and Consumer Sciences field. It will educate students and/or audiences about what students can actually do with a major in this field, instead of what the stereotypes may dictate. Through my careful attention to including both females and males, and people from different racial backgrounds in the presentation, students will learn that Family and Consumer Sciences can provide careers for all types of people. I am confident that my project will keep promoting this field and combating the stereotypes through future use by others.

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http://academics.wsu.edu/fields/study.asp?ID=A_D

DATE

NAME

HIGH SCHOOL

ADDRESS

ADDRESS

Dear XXXXX,

Hello! My name is Tara Barker. I am a student at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. I have spoken to you about organizing an informational meeting for students interested in a degree in Family & Consumer Sciences.

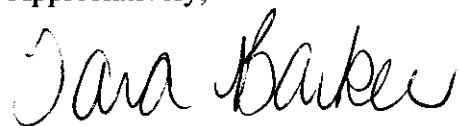
The meeting will provide information about all of the majors in Family & Consumer Sciences here at Ball State University. The majors of Family & Consumer Sciences include Dietetics, Residential & Property Management, Fashion Merchandising, Apparel Design, Hospitality & Food Management, Interior Design, Teacher Education, and a Family & Child option. A small panel of students and professors from the department will be present to address your students' questions.

I have enclosed several copies of a flier that can be posted or presented to interested students. I would greatly appreciate your help encouraging students to attend the meeting. If there is any other way in which you could advertise this meeting to your students (i.e. a school announcement or school newspaper), please let me know.

If any students wish to attend but cannot or if any students would like more specific information please have them contact me at the email address or phone numbers listed below. Also, if you have any questions or need more fliers please contact me as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time and effort! I am excited to share career opportunities with your high school students. I can be reached at tlbarker@bsu.edu, (765) 282-6017, or (219) 902-1161.

Appreciatively,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tara Barker". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Appreciatively,".

Tara Barker

Interested in Careers like...?

Dietitian

Food Service Manager

Clothing Designer

Property Manager

Hotel Manager

Market Researcher

Family Life Educator

Interior Decorator

Human Resources

High School Teacher

A degree in Family & Consumer Sciences at Ball State University offers opportunities in these careers and many more! Out-of-state tuition does NOT apply to students from Darke County!

Come to an informational meeting to learn more from students and professors in the department.

Date: Monday, April 11th, 2005

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: The Career Tech Building
Greenville High School, Room 306

Parents and students welcome!!

Interested in Careers like...?

Dietitian

Food Service Manager

Clothing Designer

Property Manager

Hotel Manager

Market Researcher

Family Life Educator

Interior Decorator

Human Resources

High School Teacher

A degree in Family & Consumer Sciences at Ball State University offers opportunities in these careers and many more! Out-of-state tuition does NOT apply to students from Darke County!

Come to our display table to learn more from students and professors in the department.

Date: Monday, April 11th, 2005

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Place: Near the Information Desk

Speech Prepared for High School Meeting

Good evening! I'm very excited to see all of you here tonight! Thank you so much for being here! My name is Tara Barker, I'm a senior at Ball State University in Muncie, IN. My major is Family & Consumer Sciences, in the Family & Child Option with minors in Social Work and Counseling Psychology. Throughout my college career, I've had a difficult time explaining my major to other people. Those conversations would go something like this: "So what's your major?" And I'd say, "Family & Consumer Sciences." The other person would look at me blankly, so I'd say, "It's kind of like Family Studies." Then they say, "Ohhh....[long pause]...what can you do with that? Are you going to be a daycare teacher?" Then I would try to give an explanation that I could do that, but I have many more options available to me. Experiencing conversations like these multiple times and some other unfortunate negative ones encouraged me to spread the word about FCS. For my honors project, I decided that I would promote FCS, to tell others exactly what we can do.

Tonight we are here to tell you about the different majors in FCS, classes you'll take, and possible career opportunities. I have a presentation to show you that will give basic information about each major and a student's experiences. However, I want this meeting to be more of an open forum for you to ask any questions that you may have. Luckily, I have other FCS people here to help me! Dr. Spangler, the chair of FCS at BSU, Dr. Adams who is a professor in the F&C option (teaching classes like Marriage, Family Policy, and Family Stressors and Crises), and Josh Clauser a senior Dietetics major. Before I start the presentation I would like to learn more about all of you. Don't worry, I won't make you stand up and give your life story, or most embarrassing moment. I would like to know why you came here tonight, what areas you are interested in or if you just came to learn more. I would also like to know your name and year in high school. This way I can keep your interests in mind during my presentation. Can we start with you?

{Students' info}

Speech Prepared for High School Meeting

Thanks! I'll keep all of that in mind, and I'll try to remember all the names! Ball State offers 9 majors in FCS: Apparel Design, Dietetics (and a Dietetic Technology two-year program), F&C, Fashion Merchandising, FCS Education, General Option, HFM, Interior Design, and RPM. And the great news for mom and dad is that students from Darke County (and other counties nearby) do NOT have to pay out-of-state tuition. On that good note, let's start this presentation.

After Presentation:

- ◆ {Introductions of the Panel members??}
- ◆ Now I would like to open up the floor for you to ask any questions you may have.
- ◆ I have FCS brochures, and documents of the info presented tonight that you can take home with you.
- ◆ Thanks for coming!

Ball State University (BSU)
Department of Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS)

Apparel Design

The Apparel Design program prepares you for a career in the global fashion marketplace. You'll study the design and construction of clothing, including fashion illustration and pattern making, in state-of-the-art design, construction, and textile labs. You'll also learn about the business side of apparel design through courses in manufacturing, wholesaling, forecasting, promotion, and marketing.

Potential Careers in Apparel Design:

- Pattern Maker
- Illustrator
- Fabric Buyer
- Textile Designer
- Tailor
- Stylist
- Dressmaker
- Apparel Manufacturer's Manager
- Wardrobe Supervisor
- Fabric Analyst
- Apparel Production Manager
- Design Consultant
- Textiles Specialist
- Quality Assurance Specialist

Classes You Will Take:

- Apparel Construction
- Fashion Industry
- History of Costume
- Chemistry
- Fashion Promotion
- Economics
- Fashion Illustration
- Dimensions of Clothing
- Tailoring
- Management
- Interviewing
- Communication
- Employee Development
- Textiles for Apparel

A student's perspective:

"Hi! My name is Arian Doaks, and I'm from Indianapolis, Indiana. My major is Apparel Design and Merchandising with a minor in Marketing. Some classes I have taken are draping, flat pattern, and textiles. But I was more interested in classes such as studio; that's a class where you make a whole line of clothing. You get to use your actual ideas instead of doing exactly what the teachers would want you to do. And the second class that you would take after that is called promotions. That's where you actually put on a whole fashion show, and the clothing that you made in your studio class is promoted in the show. You get to see your work on stage and see it on professional models. That was really, really interesting. In the future my plans are to open a store for tall women because I'm five foot ten, so I always have problems finding jeans that are long enough and long-sleeved shirts. So I'm going to be a savior to all the tall people! Yea, me! I'll sell clothing that specializes in tall women, so for those of you that are tall look for a *Tall Heaven* later on in the future."

—Arian Doaks, Ball State FCS student

Thanks for sharing, Arian!

Websites for you to check out:

- **BSU Dept. of Family & Consumer Sciences:** <http://www.bsu.edu/fcs>
- **BSU Career Center Links:** <http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/links>
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook:** <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>
- **Salary Wizard:** <http://www.salary.com>
- **University of Delaware Career Services:**
<http://www.udel.edu/CSC/apparel.html>
- **Washington State University:**
http://academics.wsu.edu/fields/study.asp?ID=A_D

Ball State University (BSU)
Department of Family & Consumer Sciences
(FCS)

Dietetics

The Didactic Program in Dietetics prepares students to help people of all ages gain and maintain good health. You will learn about the role of nutrition in optimal health and disease prevention and conduct research in the nutrition assessment and experimental foods labs. The Didactic Program in Dietetics, which prepares students to apply for an internship to become a registered dietitian, is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation on Dietetics Education of the American Dietetic Association.

Potential Careers in Dietetics:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ➤ Nutritionist | ➤ Food Scientist |
| ➤ Clinical Dietitian | ➤ Eating Disorder Program Manager |
| ➤ Consultant Dietitian | ➤ Research Nutritionist |
| ➤ Gerontological Nutritionist | ➤ Community Dietitian |
| ➤ Weight Management Specialist | ➤ Café Supervisor |
| ➤ Educational Dietitian | ➤ Dietetic Technician |
| ➤ Sports Dietitian | ➤ Nutrition Counselor |

Classes You Will Take:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| ➤ Quantity Food Production | ➤ Meal Design & Preparation |
| ➤ Human Physiology | ➤ Computer Applications |
| ➤ Statistics | ➤ Biology |
| ➤ Sanitation & Employee Training | ➤ Chemistry |
| ➤ Nutrition Assessment, Counseling & Education | ➤ Experimental Foods |
| ➤ Human Nutrition | ➤ Psychology |
| ➤ Accounting | ➤ Institutional Administration |

A student's perspective:

“My name is Josh Clauser. I am a Dietetics major. The reason I chose Dietetics is the vast possibilities within the major, from clinical to community. Classes vary from cooking labs to biochemistry, organic chemistry, biology, and clinical nutrition. Once I have finished my major at Ball State I will be applying to do a dietetics internship which can last from six to eleven months and is located all over the states. Once done with the internship I plan to counsel low-income families, eventually opening my own clinic. With this said I highly recommend volunteering or working in a hospital, leadership experience, and job shadowing a dietitian because the internship is very competitive. What I enjoy about the dietetics major at Ball State is the professors' one-on-one relationship with the students and the open door policy for the students to further their education.”

–Josh Clauser, Ball State FCS student

Thanks for sharing, Josh!

Websites for you to check out:

- **BSU Dept. of FCS:** <http://www.bsu.edu/fcs>
- **Career Links for BSU majors:**
<http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/linksmajors>
- **BSU Career Center Links:** <http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/links>
- **American Dietetic Association:** <http://www.eatright.org/Public/>
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook:** <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>
- **Salary Wizard:** <http://www.salary.com>
- **Monster.com Major to Career Converter:**
<http://content.monstertrak.monster.com/tools/careerconverter>

Ball State University (BSU)

Department of Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS)

Family & Child Option

The Family & Child program prepares students to enhance the quality of life for families and to provide enriching environments for young children. Through our nationally accredited Child Study Center and other practical experiences working with families and children, you'll gain in-depth knowledge of family functioning and be prepared for employment in social services, early childhood education programs, and family intervention and family advocacy programs. You will also have an opportunity to qualify for the Certified Family Life Educator program, a national certification program through the National Council on Families. The Child Study Center is accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs, a division of the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Potential Careers/Work Settings in the Family & Child Option:

- Early Childhood Intervention Specialist
- Family Life Educator
- Child Care Director
- Adoption/Foster Care Worker
- Child Advocate
- Child Life Specialist
- Elder Protective Services
- Domestic Violence Prevention
- Nursing Home Aide/Director
- YMCA/YWCA
- Social Welfare
- Crises Center Worker/Director
- Child Protective Services
- Consumer Protection

Classes You Will Take:

- Nutrition Educators
- Consumer Education
- Cross-Cultural Counseling
- Social Work
- Family Stressors & Crises
- Life/Work Management
- Family Wellness
- Human Sexuality
- Marriage
- Family Policy
- Presentation Techniques
- Child Development
- Family Relations
- Parenting

A student's perspective:

"My name is Nichole Pastura. I'm a Family & Child major. I also have minors in counseling and social work. I've loved learning about all the different facets of family relations and child development. I've taken classes such as child development, family stress, parenting, along with social work and counseling classes. I plan on working in the social service field. I was drawn to family and child because its mission is to improve the lives of families and individuals. It's a perfect fit for me!" –Nichole Pastura, Ball State FCS student

Thanks for sharing, Nichole!!

Websites for you to check out:

- **BSU Dept. of FCS:** <http://www.bsu.edu/fcs>
- **BSU Career Center Links:** <http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/links>
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook:** <http://www.bls.gov/oco>
- **Salary Wizard:** <http://www.salary.com>
- **American Association of FCS:** <http://www.aafcs.org>
- **National Association for the Education of Young Children:**
<http://www.naeyc.org>

Ball State University (BSU)
Department of Family & Consumer Sciences
(FCS)

Fashion Merchandising

To prepare for a career in fashion merchandising, you'll learn how clothing is constructed and to identify factors in clothing quality. You will develop buying plans and learn how to predict tomorrow's design trends. You'll learn how to develop and integrate visual merchandising into the store environment by designing attractive and effective merchandise displays for local stores and for the show windows in our department. You'll also study the fundamentals of promotion and marketing, retail buying, apparel manufacturing, and wholesaling.

Potential Careers in Fashion Merchandising:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| ➤ Retail Buyer | ➤ Showroom Assistant |
| ➤ Visual Merchandiser | ➤ Fashion Designer |
| ➤ Store Manager | ➤ Comparison Shopper |
| ➤ Fashion Reporter | ➤ Merchandise Displayer |
| ➤ Fashion Consultant | ➤ Fashion Coordinator |
| ➤ Retail Specialist | ➤ Display Assistant |
| ➤ Personal Shopper | ➤ Stylist |

Classes You Will Take:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ➤ Marketing | ➤ Visual Merchandising |
| ➤ Management | ➤ Merchandising Mathematics |
| ➤ Fashion Industry | ➤ International Apparel Markets |
| ➤ Interviewing | ➤ Communication |
| ➤ Fashion Promotions | ➤ Microeconomics |
| ➤ Textiles for Apparel | ➤ Microcomputer Applications |
| ➤ Fashion Product Analysis | ➤ Draping |

A student's perspective:

"I'm JaMarcus Fanning. My major is Fashion Merchandising with a minor in Marketing. I've taken a lot of enjoyable classes in my major such as visual merchandising and promotions, to name a few. It's given me an opportunity to do a lot of different things that I've never done such as reading to children through Student Voluntary Services, as well as attend fashion shows. And actually going to stores to learn how visual displays are set up. It's given me experiences in fashion other than just buying clothes. I've been able to produce some products and sell them as well. I really enjoy it because it's what I like. I love apparel. I think that it's rare to see men in our field, but we also have a point of view in fashion. I plan on taking this so far into sports apparel because that's the area I enjoy the most, such as athletic clothing and shoes and whatnot. I hope that by going this route, I will be able to achieve successfully."

--JaMarcus Fanning, Ball State FCS student

Thanks for sharing, JaMarcus!

Websites for you to check out:

- **BSU Dept. of FCS:** <http://www.bsu.edu/fcs>
- **BSU Career Center Links:** <http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/links>
- **Radford:** <http://www.radford.edu/~id-f/fmcareer.html>
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook:** <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>
- **Salary Wizard:** <http://www.salary.com>

Ball State University (BSU)
Department of Family & Consumer Sciences
(FCS)

FCS Education

Family & Consumer Sciences Education teaches students the organization, planning, communication, decision-making, and management skills required for a career in teaching in public or private schools or working in cooperative extension and other nonprofit agencies. The role of these educators has evolved to meet the needs of a changing society. Today's classrooms focus on nutrition, food and wellness, clothing design, child development and parenting, interpersonal relationships, adult roles and responsibilities, and budgeting and economics.

Potential Careers in FCS Education:

- Public or Private School Teacher
- Middle School Teacher
- High School Teacher
- Family Advocate
- Vocational Educator
- Cooperative ICE Program Educator
- Day Care Teacher

Classes You Will Take:

- Teaching Methods & Techniques
- Educational Psychology
- Human Nutrition
- Multicultural Education
- Interior Design Basics
- Residential Energy & Equipment
- Family Wellness
- Food Preparation
- Basic FCS Education
- Life/Work Management

A student's perspective:

"My name is Laura Dragoo and I'm a FCS Education major. My teaching license is in secondary education which is middle and high school. I'll be able to teach vocational programs such as at a Career Center or Cooperative ICE Program. Here at Ball State I've taken classes such as housing, foods and advanced labs, textiles, family wellness, marriage, consumer economics, and nutrition. When I'm a teacher I'll be able to teach child development, nutrition and wellness, textiles and fashion technologies, consumer economics, housing, interpersonal relations, and any FCS classes offered at junior high schools. My experiences here at Ball State have included being an intern for the Indiana Department of Education as the FCCLA STAR Events Coordinator. I'll have my practicum at a local high school which is teaching one hour everyday. And I'll have my student teaching next spring, all semester. My favorite part about my major is that we get to be involved in every aspect of Family & Consumer Sciences. We don't have to pick our favorite, we can learn and teach all of them. I also like the opportunities that FCS teachers have. The job outlook is very, very good for FCS teachers. Contrary to popular belief, programs are *not* being cut from school systems. FCS teachers can also be educators in a variety of other arenas than in the secondary classroom. FCS Education is a wonderful springboard into any profession in FCS. A lot of professors, even at Ball State, have a background in teaching and took master's classes to specialize in an area. I also know that many people who work in consumer-based jobs have FCS Education backgrounds. The possibilities are limitless because FCS Educators have such a wide background of FCS knowledge."

—Laura Dragoo, Ball State FCS student

Thanks for sharing, Laura!

Websites for you to check out:

- **BSU Dept. of FCS:** <http://www.bsu.edu/fcs>
- **BSU Career Center Links:**
<http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/links>
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook:** <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>
- **Salary Wizard:** <http://www.salary.com>
- **Career Links for BSU Majors:**
<http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/linksmajors>

Ball State University (BSU)
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(FCS)

General Option

General Family & Consumer Sciences prepares students to improve the quality of life of individuals, families, and communities. You'll take courses in family wellness, child development, clothing and textiles, and nutrition and food preparation, as well as pursue a minor in an area that will help prepare you for your chosen career. Graduates work in community, state, and government agencies and as family policy advocates.

Potential Careers in the General Option:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| ▪ Case Manager | ▪ Peace Corps Member |
| ▪ Youth Group Worker | ▪ Home Health Aide |
| ▪ Social Service Aide | ▪ Consumer Credit Specialist |
| ▪ Food Columnist | ▪ Public Relations Worker |
| ▪ Public Health Specialist | ▪ Child Welfare Worker |
| ▪ Researcher | ▪ Sales Manager |
| ▪ Food & Drug Inspector | ▪ Product Tester |

Classes You Will Take:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| ▪ Presentation Techniques | ▪ Textiles for Apparel |
| ▪ Consumer Education | ▪ Family Relations |
| ▪ Marriage | ▪ Dimensions of Clothing |
| ▪ Interior Design | ▪ Food Preparation |
| ▪ Personal Nutrition | ▪ Family Wellness |
| ▪ Housing Decisions | ▪ Interior Finishes |
| ▪ Child Development | ▪ Introduction to FCS |

Students in the General Option must also have a minor.

A student's perspective:

“Hello, my name is Elli Jones. I'm a Family & Consumer Sciences General major and I have minors in Business and Spanish. Some classes that I will take and have taken are some Family and Child classes like infant/toddler development and presentation techniques. I also have to take Food and Nutrition classes like principles of food preparation and science, which I am taking right now and I really enjoy. I will also be taking some Merchandising classes including dimensions of clothing and interior finishes. As a Family & Consumer Sciences General major you have to do an internship, so I will be looking forward to doing that next summer. One thing I really like about my major is the flexibility. It's kind of like a 'design-your-own' major. You get to do what you want in some areas and have more electives than a lot of the other majors. If you want to focus more into Food & Nutrition, you can take more of those classes. Also, you are required to have a minor so that way if you're more interested in Hospitality, then you can do that and take more of those classes. There are many things you can do with a General major, but not anything that's really specific. In any of the different areas, there are many different careers you could have.”

--Elli Jones, Ball State FCS student

Thanks for sharing, Elli!

Websites for you to check out:

- **BSU Dept. of FCS:** <http://www.bsu.edu/fcs>
- **Career Links for BSU majors:**
<http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/linksmajors>
- **BSU Career Center Links:**
<http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/links>
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook:** <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>
- **Salary Wizard:** <http://www.salary.com>

Ball State University (BSU)
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Hospitality and Food Management

The Hospitality and Food Management program prepares you for the challenges and rewards of working in the fast-paced and people-oriented growing hospitality and food service industries. In hands-on classes, you will learn how to manage business operations, supervise employees, and hone your food preparation and production skills. You'll gain the tools needed for your success as a restaurant or hotel manager, event planner, caterer, chef, or sales associate.

Potential Careers in Hospitality & Food Management:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| ◆ Cruise Director | ◆ Restaurant Manager |
| ◆ Food Consultant | ◆ Caterer |
| ◆ Food Service Manager | ◆ Consumer Advocate |
| ◆ Sanitation Inspector | ◆ Quality Control Manager |
| ◆ Product Analyst | ◆ Hotel Manager |
| ◆ Event Planner | ◆ Executive Housekeeper |
| ◆ Executive Chef | ◆ Travel Agent |

Classes You Will Take:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| ◆ Customer Service | ◆ Marketing |
| ◆ Catering for Profit | ◆ Event Management |
| ◆ Accounting | ◆ Sanitation |
| ◆ Tourism Systems | ◆ Meal Design & Presentation |
| ◆ Global Cultural Diversity | ◆ Food Preparation |
| ◆ Quantity Food Production | ◆ Lodging |
| ◆ Social Problems | ◆ Microeconomics |

A student's perspective:

"Hi! My name is Melissa Metz and I'm from Wabash, Indiana. My major is hospitality and food management. Some of the more important classes that I have taken for my major are management courses, human resources, accounting, and marketing. There's also food science, biology, and personal nutrition. Some of the classes that you'll take later on are purchasing, sanitation, event management, and catering. I've also done some Spanish courses because they say it's really important for food management people to have some Spanish background. I'm doing my internship this May at the Honeywell Center in Wabash. It's a convention center where I'm hoping to get a full-time job after I'm done. I'm really excited about my internship. My favorite part about my major is getting to know all the students and teachers in the department. It's a small enough major, so you can interact with everybody and make friends. I'm also involved with the Hospitality & Food Management Association; I was the president this past year. I've had the chance to develop myself as a person by gaining some responsibility skills and some organizational skills. I really feel that I'm prepared to go into the future now with all of my skills I've gained from the club. After my internship, if it works out, I will stay on there full-time, and if not then I plan on going into the hotel industry."

—Melissa Metz, Ball State FCS student

Thanks for sharing, Melissa!

Websites for you to check out:

- ◆ **BSU Dept. of FCS:** <http://www.bsu.edu/fcs>
- ◆ **Career Links for BSU majors:**
<http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/linksmajors>
- ◆ **BSU Career Center Links:**
<http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/links>
- ◆ **Occupational Outlook Handbook:** <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>
- ◆ **Salary Wizard:** <http://www.salary.com>
- ◆ **FoodIndustryJobs.com:** <http://www.foodindustryjobs.com>
- ◆ **FoodService.com:** <http://www.foodservice.com>
- ◆ **Restaurant Jobs:** <http://www.restaurant.org>
- ◆ **Hospitality Careers online:** <http://www.hcareers.com/>
- ◆ **Hospitality Net:** <http://www.hospitalitynet.org/>

Ball State University (BSU)
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INTERIOR DESIGN

The Interior Design program includes aspects of art, design, business, and human behavior. In your courses, you will learn about space planning, color, light, interior finishes, and the history of interior design. You will also have to learn to use computer-aided design (CAD) software, as well as study building codes and regulations and accessibility requirements. A required minor in architectural studies, fine arts, marketing, or historic preservation will help you broaden your program of study.

Potential Careers in Interior Design:

- Space Planner
- Design Consultant
- Commercial/Industry Designer
- Lighting Designer
- Casino Designer
- Museum Facility Manager
- Product Designer
- Showroom Designer
- University Designer
- Residential Designer

Classes You Will Take:

- Design Theory
- Art History
- Graphic Communication
- Interior Finishes
- Color & Light
- Finishes and Textiles
- Evolution of Interiors
- Interior Design Programming
- Professional Selling
- AutoCAD

Students in Interior Design are required to have a minor in historic preservation, fine arts, architectural studies, or marketing.

A student's perspective:

"Hi, I am Joli Burt. I am in the Interior Design program at Ball State University. I have two minors including architectural studies and marketing. There are a variety of other minors a student can receive including preservation and art. Classes I have taken include AutoCAD, 3D graphics, Studio for four semesters, art history, architectural history, professional selling, drafting and construction, and professional development. My favorite part of the major is the fact that Ball State incorporates both commercial and residential design into one program, unlike other schools that separate the two, commercial and residential, into two different colleges. My desired career path is to work in an architectural/interior design firm. Once I have gained experience, I could take several different paths depending on what kind of experience I have. The first step is to take the NCIDQ which will register me as a professional designer. From there I hope to either continue in design, utilizing my marketing skills and work in a retail store dealing with interior items, or go into a landscape design graduate program so that I can design the interior of the building and the exterior of it as well."

–Joli Burt, Ball State FCS student

Thanks for sharing, Joli!

Websites for you to check out:

- **BSU Dept. of FCS:** <http://www.bsu.edu/fcs>
- **BSU Career Center Links:**
<http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/links>
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook:** <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>
- **Salary Wizard:** <http://www.salary.com>
- **American Society of Interior Design:** <http://www.asid.org>

Ball State University (BSU)
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Residential Property Management (RPM)

Residential Property Management prepares graduates to manage traditional apartments, retirement communities, government housing, and other residential settings. Students develop a strong business background through courses in accounting, economics, and marketing, leasing, maintenance, government housing, and customer relations. The program is approved by the National Apartment Association and graduates are eligible to sit for the Certified Apartment Manager and the National Apartment Leasing Professional exams as part of their course work. Students also benefit from involvement with an active advisory board of industry professionals.

Potential Careers in RPM:

- Real Estate Counselor
- Lodging Managers
- Residential Agent
- Land Developer
- Leasing Managers
- Surveyor
- Housing Project Manager
- Property Accountant
- Real Estate Appraiser
- Building Superintendent
- Commercial Property Manager
- On-site Manager
- Real Estate Broker
- Residential Property Manager

Classes You Will Take:

- Real Estate
- Senior Housing
- Business Mathematics
- Customer Service
- Interior Design
- Accounting
- Microeconomics
- Trends & Issues in RPM
- Maintenance for Managers
- Marketing & Leasing
- RPM Project
- Residential Energy & Equipment
- Marketing & Leasing
- Graphic Communication

A student's perspective:

"My name is Sarah Atkinson, and I'm a senior in the RPM program. I chose the RPM major because of the unique and challenging opportunities available to students. My coursework has included classes in customer services, maintenance, marketing, and leasing. I've also taken a simulation class in which students act as 'mock' managers of a property all semester, and a community analysis class in which students compile an extensive review of a particular property. One unique thing about this major is that students can earn two professional designations through the program: the National Apartment Leasing Professional designation and the Certified Apartment Manager designation, which all RPM students are tested for before graduation. These qualifications open up many employment opportunities to students during and after their undergraduate career. Personally, I have had the opportunity to take advantage of several unique learning experiences to enrich my education. During the summer after my sophomore year, I was hired as a leasing consultant. Through this experience, I was able to learn early on that I was in the right profession. I have traveled to several industry conferences, both regional and national. Last year I went to Las Vegas for the National Apartment Association conference, and I will return this year. Numerous networking opportunities are available through the program, including special events, guest speakers, on-campus interviews, and conferences. Internships are required for completion of the major. Students can stay in Muncie, travel to Indianapolis, or work virtually anywhere in the country. I completed my internship with Archstone-Smith in Washington D.C. Through this experience, I was able to get a broad overview of the RPM industry. A variety of career paths are available to students who graduate from RPM. Upon graduation, students can specialize in marketing/leasing, management, development, training/human resources, or other areas. The possibilities are truly endless! If you're a highly motivated individual who wants to work with people in a fast-paced and exciting environment, I would encourage you to consider the RPM program at Ball State. Good luck!" –Sarah Atkinson, Ball State FCS student

Thanks for sharing, Sarah!

Websites for you to check out:

- **BSU Dept. of FCS:** <http://www.bsu.edu/fcs>
- **BSU Career Center Links:**
<http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/links>
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook:** <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>
- **Salary Wizard:** <http://www.salary.com>
- **Career Links for BSU Majors:**
<http://www.bsu.edu/careers/students/linksmajors>
- **Institute of Real Estate Management:** <http://www.irem.org>
- **National Apartment Association:** <http://www.naahq.org>
- **National Association of Residential Property Managers:**
<http://www.narpm.org>